

and other human values with a sustainable, healthy ecosystem.

During July, 1997, five public scoping meetings were held to gather public input as to their concerns and suggestions for the Black Rock Desert. Input gathered from these meetings will be used to develop the objectives for the plan and to formulate the alternatives for the environmental assessment leading to the amendment of the Land Use Plan.

DATES: A public comment period on the forthcoming Draft Plan Amendment will be announced in the spring of 1998.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to: Ron Wenker, District Manager, Winnemucca District Office, 5100 East Winnemucca Boulevard, Winnemucca, Nevada 89445.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mike Bilbo, Recreation Specialist, Winnemucca District Office, 5100 East Winnemucca Boulevard, Winnemucca, Nevada 89445, (702) 623-1500.

Dated: December 17, 1997.

Ron Wenker,
District Manager.

[FR Doc. 97-34185 Filed 12-31-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[AZ-930-03-1220-00: 8365]

Establishment of Supplementary Rules for Recreational Mineral Collection on Lands Administered by Bureau of Land Management, Arizona

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In title 43 of the Code of Federal Regulations, § 8365.1-5 establishes rules of conduct in regard to property and resources managed by the Bureau of Land Management. Section 8365.1-5(b) establishes that it is permissible to collect from the public lands "reasonable amounts" of certain resources for personal use. This action establishes the standards for "reasonable limits" for the recreational collecting of rocks, mineral specimens, common invertebrate fossils, semi-precious gemstones, and petrified wood, as well as summarizes existing rules found in above referenced citation. Recreational Mineral Collecting is commonly called "rockhounding."

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 2, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul Buff, Senior Minerals Specialist, or

Terry O'Sullivan, Senior Recreation Specialist, Arizona State Office, 222 N. Central Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona, 85004; Telephone (602) 417-9200.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: To protect valuable and fragile natural and cultural resources and to provide for public enjoyment, the following supplementary rule is provided.

Rocks, minerals, semiprecious gemstones and petrified wood may be collected on public lands administered by the Arizona Bureau of Land Management (BLM) without charge or permit as long as you collect reasonable amounts of specimens.

1. Arizona BLM sets the "reasonable" limits for personal use as up to 25 pounds per day, plus one piece, with a total limit of 250 pounds per year. These limits are for rocks, mineral specimens, common invertebrate fossils, semi-precious gemstones, and petrified wood.

2. A group of people does not pool their yearly allotment to collect a piece larger than 250 pounds of either rockhounding specimens or petrified wood. Authority to establish supplementary rules is 43 CFR 8365.1-6 and violation of these rules are punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1,000 and/or imprisonment not to exceed 12 months (43 CFR 8360.0-7).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: BLM Arizona has developed a brochure which will be available at local BLM offices, containing these supplementary rules and other regulations found in 43 CFR 8365.1-5 pertaining to Recreational Mineral Collecting. Rocks, mineral specimens, common invertebrate fossils, semi-precious gemstones, and petrified wood may be collected on public lands administered by the Arizona Bureau of Land Management (BLM) without charge or permit as long as:

1. The specimens are for personal use and are not being collected for commercial purposes or bartered to commercial dealers.

2. Collection does not occur in developed recreation sites or areas, unless designated as a rockhounding area by the BLM.

3. Collection is not prohibited or restricted and posted.

4. Collection, excavation or removal are not aided with motorized or mechanical devices, including heavy equipment or explosives. Metal detectors are acceptable, with the exception of the San Pedro National Conservation Area.

5. No undue or unnecessary degradation of the public lands occurs during the removal of rock, minerals, or gemstones.

6. For pieces of petrified wood heavier than 250 pounds or situations

not covered in the above rules or regulations, please contact the local BLM office.

7. In addition, if you are planning to use a suction dredge:

(a) It is required that you receive permission from the Army Corps of Engineers prior to using any suction dredge [Telephone: Phoenix: (602) 640-5385; Tucson: (520) 670-5021];

(b) It is required that you contact the local BLM office if the suction dredge has an intake of 4 inches or larger;

(c) It is recommended that you contact the local BLM office if the suction dredge has an intake of less than 4 inches.

Dated: December 23, 1997.

Gary D. Bauer,

Associate State Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[(NM-930-1310-01); (NMMN 89139)]

New Mexico: Proposed Reinstatement of Terminated Oil and Gas Lease

Under the provisions of Public Law 97-451, a petition for reinstatement of oil and gas lease NMMN 89139 for lands in Eddy County, New Mexico, was timely filed and was accompanied by all required rentals and royalties accruing from September 1, 1997, the date of termination.

No valid lease has been issued affecting the lands. The lessee has agreed to new lease terms for rentals and royalties at rates of \$10.00 per acre or fraction thereof and 16 $\frac{2}{3}$ percent, respectively. The lessee has paid the required \$500 administrative fee and has reimbursed the Bureau of Land Management for the cost of this **Federal Register** notice.

The Lessee has met all the requirements for reinstatement of the lease as set out in Sections 31(d) and (e) of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (30 U.S.C. 188), and the Bureau of Land Management is proposing to reinstate the lease effective September 1, 1997, subject to the original terms and conditions of the lease and the increased rental and royalty rates cited above.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Gloria S. Baca, BLM, New Mexico State Office (505) 438-7566.